

Alexandria Commission on Information Technology

Minutes
November 9, 2009 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM -- without a quorum.

Members present: Philip Acosta, Daniel Brooks, Catherine Hogan, Brian Hunt, Kostas Liopiros, Lynda Rudd

Excused: Helen Morris, R. Heather Planey

Absent: John Min, Alicia Hughes, Deb Roepke, Marie Schuler, Scott Price

City Staff present: Tom Trobridge, Suellen Savukus

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the July 13, 2009 and September 14, 2009 meetings will be addressed at the next meeting in January 2010 since there was no quorum present (a minimum of eight members are required).

Status of Commission Appointments/Recruitment

The Vice-chair, Dan Brooks, reminded the Commission that six positions would become vacant at the end of November: Daniel Brooks (11/28), Brian Hunt (11/28), Kostas Liopiros (11/28), R. Heather Planey (11/28), Scott Price (11/28) and Lynda Rudd (11/29).

Kostas Liopiros, Daniel Brooks and Lynda Rudd indicated that they plan to reapply.

Nomination for Secretary

Phillip Acosta resigned his position as Secretary in October. Kostas Liopiros tasked Marie Schuler, who chaired the Leadership Committee for the last round of nominations, to propose a candidate for Secretary at today's meeting. However, no candidates for Secretary were proposed.

Kostas Liopiros will ask members directly at the next meeting to volunteer for the position

IT/Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Mike Herway, Director IT Services, has asked the Commission to participate in the annual IT/CIP planning process, which leads to the FY2010 IT Plan. The purpose is to

get the Commission involved at an earlier stage in the development of the IT Plan. The planning process begins with a series of IT Steering Committee meetings to consider various proposed initiatives for inclusion in the plan. Meetings are scheduled tentatively from October 14 through December 11, 2009. Mike asks that the Commission review the presentations to the Steering Committee and comment on the desirability and priority of the various proposals. Comments would be due to the Steering Committee after the last Steering Committee meeting on December 11 2009.

Tom Trobridge and Suellen Savukus of the ITS staff, however, stated that the Commission's input would not be useful. As a result, review of the material submitted to date was deferred until Kostas can clarify the ITS request with Mike Herway.

During the discussion, several members expressed concern about the lack of strategic focus in the IT Plan, which hampers the ability of the Commission to review the plan from a policy perspective. Concern was also expressed that the Commission typically reviews the plan at a very late point in its development.

CRM Presentation

Suellen Savukis gave a presentation on the City's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, which is in the final stages of development. The CRM will have a mobile component would allow mobile phone interaction with the CRM reporting and work order system. The City is in the process of testing & evaluating and would appreciate any assistance with testing from the commission.

IT Commission Website

Dan Brooks asked the members to review the IT Commission's webpage on the City's website and submit suggestions for improvement. Dan will work with the City's e-gov team to make website improvements.

New Business

Catherine Hogan briefed the Commission on the status of FiOS in Alexandria. A new telephone franchise was approved by City Council in June 2009. The new franchise allows Verizon to construct the FiOS network while negotiations continue on the cable franchise (required to deliver video services). However, negotiations on providing cable TV services have been suspended. Verizon has delayed plans to implement FiOS in Alexandria pending a review of the capital budget. One of the issues is the high cost of construction in Alexandria -- Catherine noted that per mile costs of construction in Alexandria are about three times that in nearby jurisdictions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.